

April 8, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of Preserving the Open Internet (**GN Docket No. 09-191**) and Broadband Industry Practices (**WC Docket No. 07-52**)

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Minority Business RoundTable (MBRT), I want to commend your efforts in producing a National Broadband Plan designed to tackle vital inclusion challenges. We applaud the initiatives and goals of the plan, and we are grateful for your commitment to ensuring that everyone, everywhere can enjoy the benefits of broadband. Indeed, nowhere is this more important than among our nation's minorities, particularly the diverse business men and women who lead minority-owned firms.

MBRT includes CEO's of African-American-, Hispanic-American-, Asian-American- and Native-American-owned top-tier businesses and operates throughout a wide range of industries; we're proud to serve as a critical, influential voice for the more than four-million minority-owned American businesses which produce aggregate sales of nearly \$800 billion.

The Internet has been a crucial component of the progress experienced by many in the minority business community, and we are excited about the national plan's focus on creating a virtuous cycle to promote and enhance broadband build out, adoption and affordability – all key to our efforts to contribute to the revitalization of the American economy. While we're thrilled that new, minority-owned businesses are growing at nearly twice the rate of all firms in annual sales, we're equally excited that these same firms have been expanding at more than six times the rate of all firms in the U.S.

In addition to praising your advocacy efforts for minority entrepreneurs, we also write to implore that you proceed with caution when considering new open Internet regulations. We've simply come too far to risk diminishing the kind of progress noted above. We are genuinely concerned



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that any new guidelines that go beyond the effective Four Principles will delay the private investment longed for by so many of our minority communities.

We know you recognize that broadband access and digital literacy are "must haves" for economic advancement. However, despite protestations from some minority advocates, our experience tells us that the Internet has already served as a springboard to business success, free speech and cultural impact for minority entrepreneurs nationwide. The real issues are adoption and affordability. As such, we urge you to avoid any new rules that could shift the cost of next generation broadband to the very communities that have yet to capitalize on its benefits.

We appreciate your leadership on these critical issues, and we thank you for keeping our views in mind as the FCC moves forward in this process.

Sincerely,

Roger A. Campos, CEO

Down A Campos

